

## R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated.

### SUPPORT FOR THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Support for the claim amendments may be found in the specification, for example, on page 18 lines 7-27 and page 25 lines 19-23, as originally filed. Thus, no new matter has been added.

### CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Srinivasan '506 has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 8 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Grow '315 has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

Srinivasan concerns an automated, electronic network based, project management server system, for managing multiple work-groups (Title). Grow concerns an online document assembly and docketing method (Title).

Claim 12 provides (in part) (i) means for associating a plurality of individuals listed in a first database with a project and (ii) means for inputting a fact of completion of a first task associated with the project in a second database. In contrast, Srinivasan appears to be silent regarding both a first database

listing individuals and a second database receiving facts regarding completions of tasks. Therefore, Srinivasan does not appear to disclose or suggest means for associating a plurality of individuals listed in a first database with a project and means for inputting a fact of completion of a first task associated with the project in a second database as presently claimed. As such, claim 12 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 8 provides (in part) means for generating and electronically transmitting to a first individual and a second individual, to whom a first reminder was not transmitted, a second reminder to compete a task. In contrast, the text in column 18 of Grow cited in the Office Action appears to contemplate that an advisory, indicating that a sequence of reminders to an individual has not been acknowledged, is send only to an administrator. Grow appears to be silent regarding (i) the advisory being another reminder to complete a task and (ii) the advisory also being sent to the non-acknowledging individual. Therefore, Grow does not appear to disclose or suggest means for generating and electronically transmitting to a first individual and a second individual, to whom a first reminder was not transmitted, a second reminder to compete a task as presently claimed. As such, claim 8 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 13 provides (in part) means for generating and electronically transmitting a second reminder to a second

individual that a task requires completion. In contrast, the text in column 18 of Grow cited in the Office Action appears to contemplate that an advisory, indicating that a sequence of reminders to an individual has not been acknowledged, is send to an administrator. Grow appears to be silent regarding the advisory being another reminder to complete a task. Therefore, Grow does not appear to disclose or suggest means for generating and electronically transmitting a second reminder to a second individual that a task requires completion as presently claimed.

Claim 13 further provides that the second reminder to the second individual is generated and transmitted after a predetermined number of first reminders have been transmitted to a first individual concerning a task. In contrast, Grow appears to be silent regarding the advisory (asserted similar to the claimed second reminder) being transmitted after **a predetermined number** of reminders have been transmitted as presently claimed. As such, claim 13 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 15 provides (in part) means for automatically generating and electronically transmitting by a second mode to a first individual a second reminder to compete a task associated with a project on a (determined) date. In contrast, Grow appears to be silent regarding transmitting a second reminder by a second mode on a determined date as presently claimed. As such, claim 15 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

**CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103**

The rejection of claims 1-7 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grow has been obviated in part by appropriate amendment, is respectfully traversed in part, and should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 provides (i) means for associating a plurality of individuals listed in a first database with a project and (ii) means for determining in a second database a first date prior to a deadline. In contrast, Grow appears to be silent regarding a first database listing individuals and a second database holding a date. Therefore, Grow does not appear to teach or suggest (i) means for associating a plurality of individuals listed in a first database with a project and (ii) means for determining in a second database a first date prior to a deadline as presently claimed.

Furthermore, clear and particular evidence of motivation of modify Grow has not been established in the Office Action. In particular, the Office Action provides no evidence or argument that one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to modify Grow as suggested in the Office Action. The fact that references can be combined or modified is not sufficient to establish *prima facie* obviousness (MPEP §2143.01). Therefore, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established. As such, claim 1 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 6 provides (from claim 5) a second reminder electronically transmitted to a second individual who was not sent a first reminder and (from claim 6) a third reminder electronically

transmitted to a third individual who was not sent the second reminder. Assuming, *arguendo*, that the administrator of Grow is similar to the claimed second individual **sent the second reminder** as asserted in the Office Action (for which Applicant's representative does not necessarily agree), the Office Action fails to establish that the administrator can also simultaneously be the claimed third administrator **who was not sent the second reminder**. Therefore, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established that Grow teaches or suggests all of the claim limitations. As such, claim 6 is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

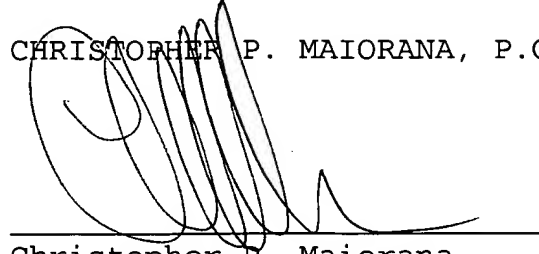
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicant's representative at 586-498-0670 should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit  
Account No. 12-2252.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTOPHER P. MAIORANA, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end, positioned over a horizontal line.

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